

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

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14 March 1967

Mr. Virgil L. Barr, Chief  
Division of International Activities  
Bureau of Mines  
U. S. Department of the Interior  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Mr. Barr:

As we approach the final quarter of this fiscal year it is apparent that once again the Bureau of Mines is likely to end the year with a substantial shortfall in its production of National Intelligence Survey sections. Of the 25 sections called for by the end of this fiscal year, including a backlog of 10 scheduled in FY 1965 and FY 1966, only 4 have been produced. More important, of the 15 sections scheduled for this fiscal year only one has been produced. I understand that the number of NIS sections you expect to produce between now and 30 June is uncertain.

As you know, our production plans, including specific areas, are annually approved by the United States Intelligence Board. In addition to this commitment to USIB, we have an obligation in budgetary terms to receive production commensurate with the contract. I am sure that you understand and share my concern.

We would like to join with you in seeking a constructive solution to what is becoming a perennial problem. Your production capability, for example, should be reassessed and a determination made of a realistic annual commitment at an appropriate level of financial support.

In about a month we will be having our annual production/budget meeting. I believe it would be desirable, however, to meet with you prior to that time for a full discussion of this production problem.

Sincerely,

JAMES A. BRAMMELL  
Director of Basic Intelligence

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